

The BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE; LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY

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Side Lights on The Meeting of The National Negro Business League

MANY WOMEN WHO CLAIM TO BE REFINED AND CULTIVATED AND WHO SEEMINGLY HAVE NO RESPECT FOR THE LIVING NOR THE DEAD ATTENDANT ITS SESSIONS.

ALTHOUGH NOT INTERESTED IN ANY OF ITS DELIBERATIONS FOR THEY PUT IN THEIR TIME IN GOSSIPING; RUBBERNECKING AND ENDEAVORING TO SEE.

WHAT EACH AND EVERY WOMAN WORE, HAD ON OR FAILED TO HAVE ON, WHO ENTERED INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH.

TIMES INNUMERABLE BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, WHO WAS FOR THE THIRTEENTH TIME Elected PRESIDENT OF THE LEAGUE.

AND DR. GEORGE C. HALL HAD TO ADMONISH THEM TO REFRAIN FROM DISTURBING THE SESSIONS BY THEIR CONSTANT LOUD TALKING.

THE RECEPTION AND BALL AT THE SEVENTH REGIMENT ARMORY, FRIDAY EVENING WAS A BRILLIANT AND LONG TO BE REMEMBERED SOCIAL EVENT.

THE CREAM AMONG THE FOUR HUNDRED AFRO-AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN FROM ALL PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES WERE PRESENT BEDECKED WITH JEWELS AND THE MOST EXPENSIVE FINERY OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON AND MRS. GEORGE C. HALL AND DR. GEORGE C. HALL AND MRS. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON LED THE RIGHT AND LEFT WINGS OF THE GRAND MARCH, WHICH WAS LIKE A FAIRY DREAM.

IT WAS DIRECTED BY CAPT. CLINTON L. HILL, JULIUS F. TAYLOR ASSISTING HIM.

AT THE CLOSE OF THE BALL A LONG LINE OF AUTOS STOOD IN FRONT OF THE 7TH REGIMENT ARMORY READY TO CONVEY MANY OF THE MERRY DANCERS TO THEIR HOMES AND STOPPING PLACES.

The thirteenth annual convention of the National Negro Business League, closed last Friday at noon at the Institutional Church, and all in all the convention of 1912, was one of the best so far held by the League, and the members of the Local League in this city with Dr. George C. Hall at its head worked early and late to assist to make it a grand success, and without any question about it, its influence for good will be of lasting benefit to the commercial and industrial well-being of the entire Afro-American race.

Eleven years ago or in 1901 the second annual session of the National Negro Business League was held in this city and the writer attended each and every session and at that time it seemed to us that in the great majority of instances the speeches delivered by the various speakers, consisted largely of froth and foam, that they had not the slightest conception of the cold facts pertaining to business, that at that meeting many broken-down politicians who never knew anything about any kind of business except politics, were constantly pushed well to the front at all times simply to praise or to boom Booker T. Washington, and when it wound up its sessions, no one was in a position to tell just what the Negro was actually accomplishing along business lines in all parts of the United States.

In all fairness to Mr. Washington and to those who were down on the program to speak not one word of politics was discussed in any manner, shape or form and no reference in any way was made by any speaker to either President William H. Taft, Col. Theodore Roosevelt or to Woodrow Wilson; this in itself was something very remarkable for it is very seldom that so large a number of colored people can gather together for any purpose without wasting all their time in fighting and wrangling over some white politician.

This seems to clearly indicate a step in advance or some progress on the part of the speakers and the delegates attending the sessions of the League in this city.

It was also refreshing to note that great headway is being made by the Negro in almost every line of business in all parts of this country and that gradually he is becoming quite a factor in the commercial world, in the east, the north, the west as well as in the south.

Heretofore Mr. Washington seemingly labored under the impression that the Negro was making no perceptible nor lasting progress along business lines except in the extreme southern states, but it is evident to our mind that he has broadened out wonderfully in this respect in the last few years and each visit he makes to the north or the northern, western and eastern states, cities, and to Chicago, he comes in closer contact with the Negro and he is just beginning to become more familiar with the reasonable degree of success which is crowning his efforts in the world of business.

In speaking about the progress of the colored people in the north in his annual address here is what he had to say in connection with their advancement in this city:

"I want to say while I am on this subject, that I have been surprised and delighted at the progress which has been made by colored business men in Chicago. As I drove down State Street the other day for a mile and a half I am sure that two-thirds of the places of business I saw were conducted by colored men. If they were not owned by colored people they were at least patronized by them. I was equally surprised and delighted when I drove down Wabash Avenue and through some of the adjoining streets to discover what handsome houses many of our people were living in. As I have had a chance to visit these houses I have been pleased to find how handsomely, even artistically, they were furnished and carefully and neatly they were maintained. It would be a revelation, almost a miracle, to our people of forty years ago to see the kind of homes in which their children and grandchildren were beginning to live. In fact, it would astonish a good many of our people in other parts of the country even today to see the progress of the colored people in Chicago. I do not think there is a large city in this country, where there is a community of colored people living together in such numbers as you do here which has made so rapid progress in so short a time, or where the opportunities are so good."

This is more than conclusive proof that Mr. Washington is beginning to look at the Northern Negro and his achievements in the various lines of business from a different view point. Retracing our steps back to the sessions of the League, which were attended by many women, many of them

claiming to be highly refined and cultivated but according to our way of thinking they have no respect for the living nor the dead, for at all times they put in their time in talking real loud and seemingly were not interested in the deliberations any further than to gossip and rubberneck while endeavoring to see what each and every woman wore, had on or failed to have on, who entered the Institutional Church and they would persist in keeping up so much loud talking, that times innumerable Booker T. Washington who was for the thirteenth time elected president of the League, without the slightest opposition and Dr. George C. Hall, had to severely admonish them to refrain from disturbing the sessions by their constant loud talking.

If the members of the Local Negro Business League had been wise they would of had several plain clothes policemen at their beck and call, who should have been instructed right at the first session to arrest the first man or woman who would persist in doing so much loud talking and yank them right out of the church, for that would have been the only harsh method to pursue right at the very jump in order to insure peace and quietude at the future sessions.

The following were the other officers elected aside from Booker T. Washington:

First vice president, Charles Banks, Mound Bayou, Miss.; second vice president, J. E. Bust, Little Rock, Ark.; third vice president, Harry T. Pratt, Baltimore, Md.; fourth vice president, John M. Wright, Topeka, Kan.; corresponding secretary, Emmett J. Scott, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama; treasurer, Charles H. Anderson, Jacksonville, Fla.; registrar, P. H. Gilbert, Brooklyn, N. Y.; assistant registrar, C. Houston, Fort Worth, Texas; transportation agent, A. B. Jackson, Philadelphia, Pa.; official stenographer, William H. Davis, Washington, D. C.; compiler, S. Laing Williams, Chicago, Ill.

Members of the executive committee: J. C. Napier, Washington, D. C., chairman; S. E. Courtney, M. D., Boston, Mass.; W. T. Andrews, Sumpter, S. C.; S. A. Furniss, M. D., Indianapolis, Ind.; J. B. Bell, Houston, Texas; J. C. Jackson, Lexington, Ky.; M. M. Leway, Pensacola, Fla.; R. E. Jones, New Orleans, La.; Walter P. Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.; Scipio A. Jones, Little Rock, Ark.; T. H. Haynes, Memphis, Tenn.; Dr. George C. Hall, Chicago, Ill.; T. J. Elliott, Muskogee, Ok.; W. C. Gordon, St. Louis, Mo.

The next meeting of the League will be held in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1913, at which time the fiftieth anniversary of the emancipation of the American Negro will be celebrated, the liberty,

loving people of Pennsylvania have already set aside \$20,000 to assist the colored people in the celebration.

The National Association of Negro Bankers, to which was given the morning session of Friday, elected the following officers: President, W. R. Pettiford, Alabama; vice-presidents, W. W. Cox, Mississippi, and Rev. E. M. Griggs, Texas, recording secretary, S. S. Brown, Tennessee; corresponding secretary, C. N. Langston, Tennessee; treasurer, T. H. Haynes, Tennessee. An important social function of the week was the magnificent banquet at the Palmer House, tendered by W. D. Neighbors, cashier of the American Bank of Chicago, in honor of the members of the National Negro Bankers' Association. Mr. Neighbors was toastmaster, and speeches were made by Dr. Booker T. Washington, Registrar J. C. Napier, Dr. W. R. Pettiford, E. D. Tiddington, S. S. Brown, Dr. R. H. Boyd and Mr. John W. Worthington, president of the American Banking Association. An agreement was reached whereby the Negro Bankers' organization becomes an affiliated body of the American Bankers' Association.

The reception and ball at the 7th Regiment Armory, Friday evening, was the crowning social feature of the meeting of the league in this city. From 9 o'clock until near 10, Dr. and Mrs. Booker T. Washington, Dr. and Mrs. George C. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Napier, and Mr. and Mrs. S. Laing Williams, formed a receiving party, and the delegates and other visitors were presented to them by Mr. Emmett J. Scott.

Shortly after 10 o'clock the grand march was formed and it was composed of the cream of the four hundred, Afro-American men and women from all parts of the United States. Well on to five hundred persons participated in it. It represented the brain and the wealth of the race; for in it were, bankers, lawyers, doctors, successful real estate dealers, and others engaged both men and women, in almost every line of business in every section of the country who possess and command much wealth.

Booker T. Washington and Mrs. George C. Hall, and Dr. George C. Hall and Mrs. Booker T. Washington led the right and left wings of the grand march which was like a fairy dream.

For those participating in it, formed all of the beautiful tints of the rainbow, and were bedecked with diamonds and jewels and the most expensive finery of every description.

No one, but a modiste of the highest art could be rash enough to attempt to describe the rich and lavish gowns, worn by the ladies.

It was directed by Capt. Clinton L.



BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

For the 13th time re-elected president of the National Negro Business League. It is rapidly beginning to dawn upon his mind, that much substantial progress, along business lines is being made by the Afro-Americans, residing in the north, east and west, as well as by those living in the southern states.

The Successful Close of The State Street Fair and Carnival

On Wednesday Evening Col. John R. Marshall Crowned Miss Hattie Holliday Queen of the Carnival

The Chicago Colored Business Men's State Street Fair and Carnival just closed will be a thing that will long be remembered to all classes of citizens of this city. The interest displayed by the thousands who taken part shows conclusively that it had the hearty approval of the best thinking people of the race. Such events as this Carnival adds materially to our possibilities, demonstrating to the Merchants along State street and elsewhere that the race must be reckoned with. It is true that the management of the Carnival had some hard knocks from a source least expected and it is a shame that it did, but now that it is over let us hope that they are wiser and will be better next time. Our race lacks unity of action, it might be from selfish motives or greed personality, but what ever the cause let us hope that we will have less knockers in future. We all cannot be leaders but let at least not pass censure until the race is hurt.

Nothing ever taken place in Chicago that has been so helpful to us as this Carnival and it will not be long before results will be seen.

The enterprise was not started mainly for amusement, but to show our possibilities both industrially and otherwise.

A financial risk was taken by the Promoters to accomplish and carry to

a successful close the Carnival and it is to be hoped that no loss will be sustained by them, but they at least must be happy to know that they have added greatly in favor of the race. The magnificent manner in which the Carnival was conducted, places us in the eyes of the public as law abiding and morally above reproach. The City Council and his Hon. Mayor Harrison must at least feel gratified that they gave the street to men who promised them that law and order would be maintained, and that their promise was kept. One of the grandest and inspiring sights during the Carnival taken place on last Wednesday night, when Col. John R. Marshall crowned Miss Hattie Holliday the Queen. She accepted the honor with that Queenly modesty that she is noted for and her subjects fell at her feet with praise and acclaimed her the most popular and also the most beautiful among the many that contested for the honor. Manager Jesse Binga deserves to be highly praised for making it possible for the colored people not only of this city but also from many parts of the country, to enjoy two weeks of fun and pleasure. At the same time greatly benefiting the business men and women on State street from 31st to 39th street who were in the wake of the Carnival—"M"

Hill, who conducted it to perfection; Julius F. Taylor assisting him.

It was our pleasant duty to stand at the head of the advancing columns and divide the couples off, to the right and to the left.

At the close of this more than brilliant social event, a long line of autos stood, in front of the 7th Regiment Armory, ready to convey the merry dancers to their homes and stopping places.

BAR ASSOCIATION AVOIDS COLOR WAR.

Adopts Resolution Enabling It to Exclude Negroes from Its Membership.

ONE BLACK MAN RESIGNS.

Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 28—(Special.) To The Broad Ax—The American Bar Association dodged the Negro question in a short but noisy session today. Leaders said a full, free, and frank discussion on the ousting of three colored members would disrupt the organization.

David Fraser of Fowler, Ind., was placed temporarily in the chair. He was a college classmate of Senator Elihu Root, who engineered the steam roller at the national Republican convention. Excited men yelled for recognition, but Mr. Fraser choked off debate after former Secretary of War Dickinson, Attorney General Wickersham, and Attorney Nathan William MacChesney of Chicago had spoken briefly.

Former Attorney General Albert E. Pillsbury of Massachusetts referred to the procedure as "an application of the Lynch law." Attorney Joseph David of Chicago characterized the resolution as "a lie."

Text of the Resolution. The resolution adopted by viva voce vote follows:

"Resolved, That, as it has never been contemplated that members of the colored race should become members of

this association, the several local councils are directed, if at any time any of them shall recommend a person of the colored race for membership, to accompany the recommendation with a statement of the fact that he is of such race."

This resolution was presented by Mr. Dickinson. The preamble recites that the three Negroes, Assistant Attorney General William H. Lewis, Butler R. Wilson of Massachusetts, and William R. Morris of Minnesota, are members of the association, although the executive committee held they were not.

Morris has sent his resignation to the secretary of the association, asserting he does not want to be a member of any organization where he is unwelcome. It is rumored that efforts are being made to have Wilson also resign. Then the opponents of the Negroes hope to prevail upon Attorney General Wickersham to compel the resignation of his assistant.

Satisfactory to Wickersham. It is argued that the resignation of all three colored men will nullify any political advantage the attorney general may have got out of the adoption of the resolution.

"The resolution adopted by the association," Attorney General Wickersham said, "accomplishes exactly what I have striven for—namely: the abandonment of the effort to exclude Assistant Attorney General William H. Lewis from membership in the association. It recognizes the fact that he and the two other colored men who were elected by the executive committee, Mr. Morris of Minnesota and Mr. Wilson of Boston, are now active members of the association."

William P. Clancy, 5553 S. Green street, who was for a long time connected with the police force of this city, has for some time been critically ill at his home last week he was removed to St. Bernard's Hospital, where he successfully underwent an operation. To the delight of his many friends he is improving.